

HABS No. IA-180

S. J. Wilkins and Company Millinery and Fruit Shop  
Iowa Penn Central Regional Shopping Center  
217 High Ave. West  
Oskaloosa  
Mahaska County  
Iowa

HABS  
IOWA  
68-OSK,  
15-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Rocky Mountain Regional Office  
P.O. Box 25287  
Denver, Colorado 80225

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

S. J. WILKINS AND COMPANY MILLINERY AND FRUIT SHOP

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Location: 217 High Ave. West, Oskaloosa, Mahaska County, Iowa.

Description: Brick load-bearing walls, 20' x 120', two-story building. Wide oriel window at second floor, modillioned cornice (possibly applied upside-down), leaded glass transom window across storefront. First floor has one large open room in front and small room in rear; second floor has two apartments on second floor with entry hall along east side of building. Interior details include pressed-metal ceiling on first floor, original door hardware, corner moldings and skylights on the second floor. Oriel and cornice not original.

History: Built approximately 1894. S. J. Wilkins and Company, composed of Stilman and Sarah Wilkins, operated a millinery and fruit shop there. In 1910, Chancey W. Bollinger purchased the building and operated a shop there selling watches, jewelry, pianos, organs, and sheet music. "Bollinger" appears in tiles at the floor of the entry.

Sources: Iowa Site Inventory; County Deed Records; Oskaloosa City Directories; Case Report Information; Salvage Field Survey conducted May 1984; Building Conditions Survey conducted April 1983.

Project Information: Plans call for demolition of this building in fall 1984. This historical documentation was completed by the Urban Programming Corporation during May, June and July of 1984. It is one portion of the historical/architectural recordation of seven city blocks in downtown Oskaloosa prepared for the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS). For more information, see HABS No. IA-147.

This documentation was completed under the direction of Gregory D. Kendrick, Historian for the National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Regional Office. Project supervisor was Peter Sortino of the Urban Programming Corporation. Historical documentation was completed by Diane Bowman of the Urban Programming Corporation. Photographer for the project was David W. Preston of St. Louis, Missouri.